

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A method of registering warranties on products using phone cards, the method comprising the steps of:

packaging a phone card with a separate product wherein the phone card includes a phone card code;

obtaining a financial card number with a point of sale system for the purchase of the product;

obtaining the phone card code from the phone card with the point of sale system upon purchase of the product;

transmitting the financial card number, a charge authorization request for the financial card number, and the phone card code from the point of sale system to a code processing system;

transmitting the financial card number and the charge authorization request from the code processing system to a financial network;

receiving an authorization response in the code processing system from the financial network and processing the phone card code to determine product information and manufacturing information for the product if the authorization response indicates that the charge to the financial card number was allowed;

transmitting a warranty activation request and the product information from the code processing system to a manufacturer warranty activation system based on the manufacturer information to activate a warranty on the product; and

transmitting the phone card code and a phone card activation request from the code processing system to a phone card activation system to activate the phone card.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the phone card code comprises a pre-paid phone card code.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein financial card number includes one of a credit card number, a debit card number, or a bank card number.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the step of processing the phone card code to determine product information and manufacturing information for the product comprises:

looking up the phone card code in a database, where each phone card code in the database corresponds with a product and a manufacturer.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the product information includes one of a serial number, a model number, or a product price.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of:
formatting the product information based on the manufacturer information before transmitting the product information from the code processing system to the manufacturer warranty activation system.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising the steps of:
receiving a warranty activation response in the code processing system from the manufacturer warranty activation system identifying that the warranty on the product is activated;
receiving a phone card activation response in the code processing system from the phone card activation system identifying that the phone card is activated; and
transmitting the warranty activation response, the phone card activation response, and the authorization response to the point of sale system.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of:
printing a warranty activation certificate based on the warranty activation response in the point of sale system.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of:
determining how to communicate with the manufacturer warranty activation system based on the manufacturer information.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the code processing system communicates with the point of sale system, the manufacturer warranty activation system, and the phone card activation system over a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN).

33. (Currently Amended) A warranty activation system, comprising:

a point of sale system configured to obtain a financial card number for a purchase of a product, obtain a phone card code from a phone card upon purchase of the product, where the phone card is separated from and is packaged with the product, and transmit the financial card number, a charge authorization request for the financial card number, and the phone card code; and

a code processing system configured to receive the financial card number, the charge authorization request for the financial card number, and the phone card code, transmit the financial card number and the charge authorization request to a financial network, receive an authorization response from the financial network, process the phone card code to determine product information and manufacturing information for the product if the authorization response indicates that the charge to the financial card number was allowed, transmit a warranty activation request and the product information to a manufacturer warranty activation system based on the manufacturer information to activate a warranty on the product, and transmit the phone card code and a phone card activation request to a phone card activation system to activate the phone card.

34. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the phone card code comprises a pre-paid phone card code.

35. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein financial card number includes one of a credit card number, a debit card number, or a bank card number.

36. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the code processing system is further configured to:

look up the phone card code in a database, where each phone card code in the database corresponds with a product and a manufacturer.

37. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the product information includes one of a serial number, a model number, or a product price.

38. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the code processing system is further configured to:

format the product information based on the manufacturer information before transmitting the product information to the manufacturer warranty activation system.

39. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the code processing system is further configured to:

receive a warranty activation response from the manufacturer warranty activation system identifying that the warranty on the product is activated;

receive a phone card activation response from the phone card activation system identifying that the phone card is activated; and

transmit the warranty activation response, the phone card activation response, and the authorization response to the point of sale system.

40. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 39 wherein the point of sale system is further configured to:

print a warranty activation certificate based on the warranty activation response.

41. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the code processing system is further configured to:

determine how to communicate with the manufacturer warranty activation system based on the manufacturer information.

42. (Previously Presented) The warranty activation system of claim 33 wherein the code processing system communicates with the point of sale system, the manufacturer warranty activation system, and the phone card activation system over a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN).